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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

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The following is a translation of the quarterly report of the Thu Dau Mot group, Lai Thieu section of the Lien Viet Association of South Vietnam to association headquarters. This report, covering the period from January to March 1951, is the first in a series which should serve to clarify the organization of the Lien Viet Association and conditions in Communist-controlled zones of South Vietnam.

National Youth and Health

Lai Thieu Section
(Thu Dau Mot Group)Quarterly Report

(January to March 1951)

I. General Situation in the Canton

A. Enemy situation.

1. Military: During the past three months, the enemy attacked our zone four times (Thuan An Hoa three times; Tan Hiep once) and changed its combat tactics.

They used armored units to penetrate Thuan An Hoa through paths in the forest, while the infantry remained in ambush in the neighborhood, fearing traps and automatic weapons. The infantry penetrated our sectors only after the armored cars had passed.

This new method of attack proved efficient, since traps and automatic weapons were radically neutralized after the armored cars passed. The object of the attack was to destroy our bases.

Apart from this type of concerted action, there were raids in surrounding zones and ambushes against our guerrillas, aimed at capturing cadres and guards in the Communes.

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2. Political: (Ruses of government officials)

In the past three months these officials have blackmailed the people in order to extort money from them and malign the Resistance. They have printed circulars inviting our soldiers to join them on the promise of good treatment.

3. Economic: The enemy's economic situation is very good because their zones are productive, while ours are not. Our people must go to the city for supplies and, on their return, are ambushed by the enemy and their supplies stolen, which adds to our people's hardship.

4. Cultural and Social: The enemy holds classes in the following localities: Hung Dinh, An Thanh (Bung), Minh Phu, Phu Long, An Son, Binh Nham, and Lai Thieu. They still teach the same bluff.

There have been no social reforms. The same superstitions prevail and very little attention has been given to sanitation. In short, there are no social or cultural changes and the old order proceeds as in the past.

5. Reactionary Youth Organizations include the following: sports: Bao Quoc Doan Youth Group; religious organizations such as Catholic, Caodai, Protestant. These organizations are active in their respective zones.

B. Our Present Situation. (Principal Changes)

1. Political: Our administrative personnel is recruited among the cadres of our delegation and are in every locality. They have won the people's confidence in our government.

Internal Situation of the People's United Front: All groups, religious organizations and democratic parties are unified in the People's National Front and have confidence in the Front's competent direction (Lien Viet Association or United Viet Nam).

2. Military: Our regular troops and People's Guerrilla Militia did not engage in any combat, except for some dispersed action against terrorism. Three of the enemy were killed at the railroad station of Dian by the 2765 (sic) Company of the 306/312 Battalion stationed temporarily in Lai Thieu.

3. Economic: (Harvests in the Canton)

The harvest towards the end of January 1951 was collected and hidden. A semi-wild rice is being harvested for the first time in Tan Hiep, Tan Hoa, Tan Phuoc and Binh Chuan. Truck-gardening is sufficient for daily consumption.

In short, the people are aware of the necessity for greater production and self-sufficiency, with the exception of some Communes like Binh Hoa, An Phu and some villages in Thuan Giao, where production is on a day-by-day basis. This situation is the result of destruction caused by the war and the lack of land suitable for cultivation.

4. Cultural and Social: (People's Instruction and Elementary Instruction)

Education of the people is growing because of the general desire of all organizations during the current year to defeat another enemy - "Ignorance".

Elementary instruction has slowed down in favor of education of the people. Only one elementary class is held daily, while the remaining time is reserved for teaching the alphabet. Pupils in elementary classes must go to various houses for specific after-class instruction. This method is particularly prevalent in the Tan Hiep and Tan Hoa Communes.

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II. Group Situation**A. Membership:**

Young men - 2,102 (increase of 52)

Young women - 1,985

Adolescents - 5,511

There has been an increase of 52 due to the addition of adolescents to the young men's group.

1. Communal Group Situation: Communal groups in Tan Kiep, Tan Hoa, Tan Phuoc, Binh Chuan, Binh Hoa, An Phu, Thuan Giao and An Son, function regularly and successfully. The most active group is that of Binh Hoa.

Other groups do not function well because of regional circumstances, such as groups in An Thanh, Vinh Phu, Phu Long, Binh Nhieu, Tan Thoi and Hung Dinh. Some groups have had their members captured by the enemy, as those of An Thanh, Vinh Phu, and Phu Long. Other groups, whose members have had to assume governmental functions, have necessarily reduced their activities. Groups in enemy regions remain passive for fear of discovery by the enemy.

2. Activities:

(a) Youth mobilization, People's Militia activity and military preparation were stressed in this period.

(b) Formation: No new classes were held, except for a course in conducting secret activities in enemy zones. The same situation prevails in the villages, except for the teaching of the procedure for conducting meetings.

3. Finances and Production:

Budget: Half-yearly assessments	960 piasters
Contributions of other organizations	<u>1,200</u> piasters
Total	2,160 piasters
Total quarterly expenses	<u>2,572</u> piasters
Deficit	412 piasters

Monthly expenses have always been heavier than income because of the ever-increasing number of members, with their own expenses.

Our group has no other source of income except from assessments.

There is no production to speak of, because these sections are constantly exposed to enemy action and pillaging.

Villages such as An Hoa, Thuan Giao, Binh Hoa and An Phu have been able to grow vegetables, potatoes and cassava and to feed poultry.

However, production is nil everywhere else.

4. People's Militia: Cooperation has not been exceptional. They are mainly concerned with defense work (bamboo barriers), construction of spiked bamboo traps and air raid shelters. Only the militia does this work.

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5. Social Action: Our group has furnished teachers for elementary classes and promoters of popular education, and has given courses in the popularization of knowledge in Tan Hiep, Tan Hoa, Tan Phuoc, An Phu, Binh Hoa and Thuan Giao.

6. Adolescents: (covered by a separate report).

7. Partisan Organizations: All the young people of our section belong to the Party Section.

The most energetic groups in party action are: The GTLL Section and the Youth Section of the city of Lai Thieu.

8. Women's Groups: (covered by a separate report).

9. Application of Circulars in the Province: An integral application of all provisions has been made. The results of this work will be reported later.

10. Initiative: Except for the integral application of Circulars in the Province, no independent initiative has been shown.

11. The plans of the People's Militia has been executed by our Section, such as, cooperation with all combat groups, sponsoring the GTLL Day, etc. In brief, all projects have been carried out according to regulations governing the Regular Militia.

B. Youth Solidarity:

1. Internal situation of the National Youth of Vietnam:

Participation of Catholic, Student and Democratic Youth is insignificant compared with their numbers. But the Youth Federation has not suffered any serious hindrances on this account.

Proposal: That the creation of secretariats be subsidized.

Lai Thieu, 12 April 1951

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